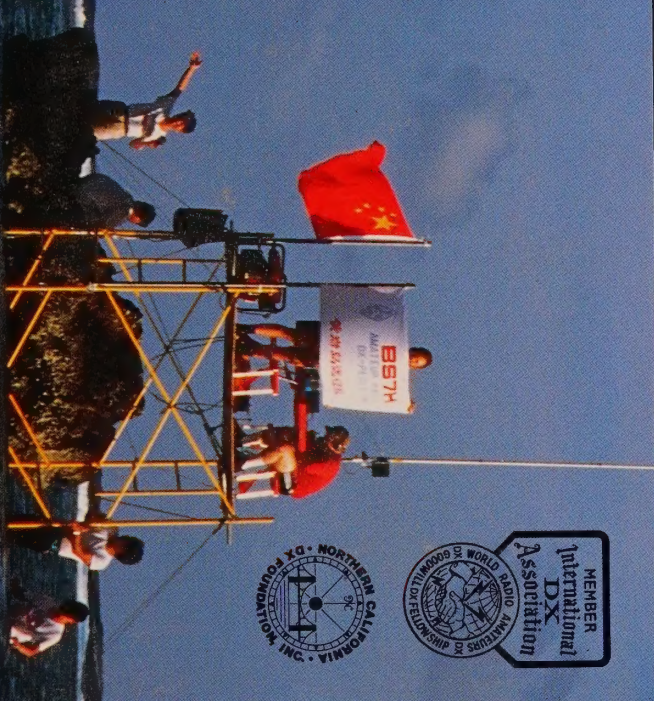


YAESU



PICTURE TAKEN AT HIGH-TIDE

SOUTH CHINA SEA
SCARBOROUGH REEF
POSITION 117.51E 15.07N

BS7H

SCARBOROUGH REEF 1994

To Radio:			
1994	UTC	MHz	2-way RS
25th June		14-3.7	SSB 59
Verified by:			

EQUIPMENT: (Courtesy of Yaesu Musen Co., Ltd)
Yaesu FT-990 (100W), Cushcraft R5
Honda 2500W AC-generator

VESSEL: M/V Tabibuga
Length 20 meters, breadth 5.72 meters,
105 tons gross weight, all steel construction,
single screw, speed 8 knots

*Thanks to the following individuals and groups for the success of the BS7H operation:
Captain Tony Hookway and the crew of the M/V Tabibuga, DUIKT, DU9RG, OH2BBF, N7NG, VS6CT, VS6GP, 9V1YW,
Ms. Yun Cai, JMBL International, CQ Ham Radio of Japan, Yaesu Musen Co., Ltd, NCDXF, and INDEXA.*



Operators

Chen Ping, BZ1HAM
Claus Karthe, DL5VJ
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Tim Totten, KJ4VH
Martti Laine, OH2BH
Lasse Oka, OH2MAK
Vincent Villalon, DU1IOG
Joye Uy Yeung Wai, DU1RAA



Chen Ping, BZ1HAM, the leader of the first-ever PRC based DX-pedition

Scarborough Reef (also known as Huang Yan Dao, or Yellow Rock Island) is located in the South China Sea at latitude 15.1 N, longitude 117.5 E, more than 500 statute miles from mainland China, the PRC. Scarborough Reef is territory of the PRC. No other country disputes the PRC's ownership of Scarborough.

Scarborough Reef qualifies as a new DXCC country by Point 2(a) of the DXCC countries criteria: it is an island separated by more than 225 miles of open water from its parent country.

A great deal of discussion has taken place concerning Scarborough Reef's qualifications as a DXCC country. All the concerns expressed revolve around its size. Some believe it's simply not large enough to be considered an island. Others claim that it isn't large enough to provide safe operating quarters for DXpedition operators. Still others feel that it shouldn't even be considered for DXCC country status unless it's large enough to accomodate full-sized antennas on the lower frequency bands. But Scarborough Reef passes all these tests.

First, portions of Scarborough Reef are above water twenty-four hours a day, even during high tides. It is therefore an island by no less an authority than the United Nations. Second, safety is always uppermost in the minds of operators who travel to remote parts of the globe. We operated from Scarborough Reef in complete safety, without so much as a scrape among the operators. Finally, although most of our operations were on the 20 meter band, using an R5 vertical, we also spent time on 80 meters with a full-size dipole.

We built a small platform to hold our operating table, chairs and equipment. We could have operated from the surface of the reef itself, but let's face it - our DXpedition took place in the middle of the typhoon season. Large waves can appear without warning, and we wanted to be sure our feet and equipment would remain dry.

One of the exciting aspects of DXing is its almost infinite variety. This operation was truly unique, not only because it was the first ever operation from Scarborough Reef, but because it was the first international DXpedition organized by CRSA, the Chinese Radio Sports Association in cooperation with JAIBK and OH2BH, and with participation by DXers from four different continents. Scarborough Reef itself is an enormously fascinating spot: it's beautifully situated with 15 miles of some of the world's most spectacular coral formations. On top of that, it is a dream DX location, quiet and fun to operate from.

Today's DX will never be an exact copy of yesterday's memorable performance. DX is always different, full of adventure and excitement. This time was no exception. We're glad you were around to be a part of it!

